

THOMAS G. WIGGANS

July 15, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical
Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am an entrepreneur who has started and grown a number of biotechnology companies, effectively bringing important new drugs to the marketplace to improve the health and well-being of millions. I serve on the board of several health care companies and am in the process of starting my next company. I understand the importance of providing and accessing data in high technology businesses.

I also serve as the Chairman of the Board for the Biotechnology Institute, which is a national organization dedicated to improving bioscience education for students. The Institute recently completed a premier high school science competition entitled the BioGENEius Challenge where hundreds of students from across the United States participated. I am very proud to tell you that a young woman from my home state of Kansas, Prarthana Dalal, took home the ultimate prize as the International winner of the BioGENEius Challenge. Prarthana's science education acumen can be credited in part to attending one of the best high schools in the state, which is located in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

Unfortunately, I know there are a number of students from rural school districts in Kansas who do not have the same technology advantages as Prarthana and her classmates. One of these advantages is access to affordable, high-speed wireless broadband.

I am originally from the small town of Fredonia, Kansas and know firsthand that a digital divide still exists in many parts of the state. With the increased usage of smart phones and tablet computers, especially among young people, the demand for wireless broadband is rapidly increasing. We owe it to our young people to ensure they have easy, affordable access to the internet no matter what school they attend.

I have recently learned of an issue before the Commission involving LightSquared and their plans to deploy a wholesale 4G network that has the

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ability to cover at least 260 million people by the end of 2015. That is real progress for everyone in the country!

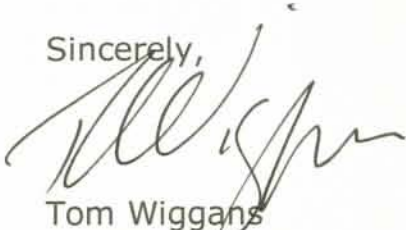
I have read some news stories about potential interference issues between GPS receivers that pick up signals from inside LightSquared's licensed spectrum. Clearly, the GPS system should be preserved – rural America, and especially crop farmers, utilize GPS devices to maximize their harvest. But those farmers likely have sons or daughters, nieces or nephews attending a rural school district that would benefit greatly from affordable wireless broadband. With an iPhone or iPad, those rural students have the ability to access endless information and will be better equipped to succeed in school and in life.

I don't believe that interference between similar technologies is a problem without a solution. Rural Kansans and rural America should not have to choose between GPS and broadband; they deserve and need both.

I hope that the FCC will appropriately resolve this conflict and allow LightSquared to move forward and become available to students everywhere.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Wiggans', written over the printed name.

Tom Wiggans
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